

12/9/70

Dear Cyril,

Glad to get your 12/4. In the clothing/pictures suit, I am pro se, alas (but Bud says it is better). I'll also be my own attorney in the suit for the autopsy materials. I'll describe the unique approach (over which Bud flipped) when I see you.

Bud at first agreed to handle one large suit. I suggested separating the King thing and he agreed. He then suggested I separate all the others, for what seemed and seem like very good reasons. Then he said he'd not be able to handle them. Then he said if I drafted the complaints, he'd go over them. He hasn't, save for one, which he immediately said he wanted to handle (and did), on the spectro. We lost and he is appealing. He said he'd handle that one because whatever the outcome it would go to the Supreme Court.

In many ways I agree with Bud's judgement that because of my knowledge of the fact I am the only one able to ask the right questions, etc. He also believes that, because of the unusual nature of the cases, a judge might be inclined to accept from me what he might not from a lawyer. Not that I'd ~~deliberately~~ deliberately do what is wrong, but without intending, I might get into areas from which a lawyer might exclude himself or a judge do it for him. Hence, and because there is no alternative, I'm my own lawyer.

Bud has been sitting on the draft of the suit for the autopsy stuff for a year or so, but I've ~~some~~ much to do I'm less put out about it than I might be. The next one to be filed, drafted but requiring that I find time for revision, will deal with (or should I say seem to deal with?) the suppressed Ferrie material. Probably the next one to be heard is a Petition for show cause and motion for relief I've filed alleging contempt by Justice in the King case and seeking a kind of relief. Next will probably be the one of which I wrote (no date yet set), on the clothing/pictures. I'll immediately get the negatives of the pictures I have back and send them to you (but please keep what you may detect in confidence). These are the first clear ones we've been able to get. With a break in court, with them and expert testimony about them, we might accomplish something. The government seems anxious for this one to go to trial, for they've ignored the customary formalities like moving to dismiss or for a summary judgement, not even claiming exemption under 5 USC 552. I suspect that Justice has in mind framing the Kennedy family and the Secret Service. This being the case (if it is), there should be much fun.

Meanwhile, hope you can make it here sometime soon so you can see what I have that is relevant, that I'm holding back for writing and the later suits.

Best regards,

RB, HR- if either of you has the negatives and/or a spare set of prints, I'd appreciate them as soon as possible so I can get them to Cyril, who now indicates a willingness to be a witness for me if it is within his expertise, as I suspect it is. If you want the prints back, please say so on the reverse side of them. Can't write much and am under injunction not to write at all until the bursitis has passed. I think it is easing up some since I started behaving or, since the pressure on the book has passed (except for phone).